THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Saturday, 27th August 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at nine of the clock, the Deputy Speaker (SRI B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAIDU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Industrial Tribunal Amendment Act

* *Short Notice Question No.* 15.—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the legislation enacted by the Parliament applying the Industrial Tribunal Amendment Act to journalists has been published in the Madras Gazette along with the relevant rules; and

(*b*) if not, why?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Working Journalists (Industrial Disputes) Act, 1955, has been published in Part III-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 30th March 1955. The question of applying the Industrial Disputes Rules, 1948, to disputes relating to working journalists is under examination."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" In view of the fact that the relevant rules have to be framed by the State Government and published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the application of those rules to the journalists of the State may not be possible. Therefore, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government will publish the relevant rules as early as possible so that the grievances of the journalists may be redressed and their rights established? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I have answered that question. The Industrial Disputes Rules will have to be amended so as to apply them to the journalists and that is exactly under examination by this Government in consultation with the Commissioner of Labour and the Law Department. As soon as the examination is over, necessary action will be taken in the matter of publication of the rules."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Is it a fact that some of the Paper magnates are trying to see that the framing of the rules is delayed? May I also know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government will be pleased to see that the rules are framed as early as possible, especially as journalists have to make so many demands and bring so many disputes under this Act? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" About the framing and issuing of rules as early as possible, I have answered already. About the other fact mentioned by the hon. Member, I do not have any information."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Since the matter is rather urgent and in view of the apprehensions entertained by the journalists as is seen by the previous question, may I request the Government to fix some date by which they could frame the rules and publish them? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Whatever be the urgency felt by the hon. Members and felt by the Government and whatever be the apprehension felt by the hon. Members, the hon. Member himself, being a lawyer, would realize that before finalizing the rules, they have to be thoroughly examined. That is being done by the Government."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware that Hyderabad, Mysore, and other State Governments have already framed their rules? That being the case, may I know why the Madras Government are delaying the matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" This Government have no information as to what the other Governments are doing or not doing."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" May I know how long will it take to finalize their examination? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am sorry I cannot tell the hon. Member the exact date when the rules would be finalized. I have already stated and I will repeat that this would be done as early as possible."

Land eviction in Wynaad

* *Short Notice Question No.* 16.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP (on behalf of Sri M. K. Padmaprabha Gounder) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the letter from Sri M. K. Padmaprabha Gounder, M.L.A. (Wynaad), addressed to the Governor of Madras on the question of land eviction in Wynaad; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have received a copy of the report submitted by the Collector of Malabar to the Private Secretary to the Governor together with a copy of the letter of the hon. Member. This and similar other representations are under the consideration of the Government."